



Exeter Christian Reformed Church

332 Huron Street West
Exeter, Ontario, NOM 1S2
Telephone: 519-235-2990
Website: www.exetercrc.on.ca

Pastor: Jay Crossen
Pastor's Email: pastorjay@exetercrc.on.ca
Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 12:15-4:15
Publishing deadline: Thursday, 9:00 am
Administrative E-mail: bulletin@exetercrc.on.ca

Sunday, May 24, 2026

Worship: 10am

Pastor: Jay Crossen

**Musicians: Michelle, Shawn,
Sylvia, Marian, Al, Shaun, Josh,
Orrin**

God Gathers Us in His Presence

Words of Welcome

* Call to Worship

* Song: **King of Kings CCLI # 7127647**

* God's Greeting

* Song: **His Mercy Is More CCLI # 7065053**

God Renews us in His Grace

Profession of Faith: Jenelle Vanderlaan, Cameron Knip & Eli Crossen

Song: **Come Thou Font of Every Blessing LUYH # 521**

Lord's Supper

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Dismissal of (Age 3– Grade 6)

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 43:8-13

Message: You Are My Witnesses

Song: **Be Unto Your Name CCLI 2177476**

God Calls Us to Respond with Prayers and Offerings

Prayer of God's People

Offering: Edudeo

Offertory: **Instrumental**

God Sends Us Out to Serve with His Blessing

*God's Sending and Blessing

*Song: **Living Hope CCLI # 7106807**

* Indicates to please stand if you are able LUYH stands for Lift Up Your Hearts (the red song book in the pews)

Gathering for Worship

LARGE PRINT copies of the Lift Up Your Hearts hymn book are available for use during worship. They are located on the bookcase in the foyer next to the administrator's office. Large print copies of songs not in LUYH are available from the ushers.

Nursery and Sunday School programs will be available during the church service for those parents who wish their children to participate. We have classes for children aged 3 to Grade 6. Children will be dismissed during the worship gathering. The Education Committee, Sunday School, and Nursery, with the support of Council, have developed a plan to safely care

Valet service - designed for worshippers with mobility challenges, valet service is available for free with advance arrangements. Simply drive your car up to the east door (under the car port) and one of our friendly drivers will meet you, help unload your mobility device and park your car for you! If you are interested, please contact Mike Buckman in church, by phone (519-236-7940), by text (519-630-7827), through Facebook or via email at michaelbuckman@hotmail.com

Upcoming Services:

<u>May 24:</u>	Pastor Jay	(Lord's Supper & Profession of Faith Jenelle Vanderlaan, Cameron Knip & Eli Crossen)
<u>May 31:</u>	Pastor Matthew Verhoog	
<u>June 7:</u>	Pastor Jay	
June 14:	Pastor Toyosi Awesu	

Exeter CRC strives to be a healthy community. If you are feeling unwell in any way join our worship gathering on-line. We continue to worship together as a community of God's people. **YouTube:** <https://bit.ly/3yYa4ze>



Exeter CRC is accessible for those with hearing impairment. If you are hard of hearing, please have an usher direct you to the sound booth for an assistive device.

From the Deacons

The offering this Sunday is Edudeo

<u>May 31:</u>	Resonate Global Mission - Mario Matos
<u>June 7:</u>	Christian School Bursary Fund
<u>June 14:</u>	Thrive - Race Relations



The Deacons will collect your offering during the worship service. You can also respond with your offering by e-Transfer to ecrcgiving@gmail.com. Please state in the memo the cause(s) you are supporting. Coupons for the offering are available in the office; please ask one of the deacons for assistance if you are interested in buying coupons.

Common Plate A donation email has been set up for Common Plate it is as follows donations@Exetercommonplate.org

Request from Huron Newcomers: "One of our newcomers is a young man named Joel who is looking for a one-bedroom apartment in Exeter. He has a full-time job as a cook nearby but has no car at the moment. However, he has a ride to work from Exeter so it needs to be in town. He is a very responsible hard worker and would be a fine tenant. He is currently renting a two-bedroom that is too expensive at \$1500 a month and would like to find something smaller and cheaper."

Contact Dianne or Joy if you are able to help with this request.



MemberCare⁺ is a free counselling program for Exeter CRC members provided through By Peaceful Waters. Please call **519-886-8577** or email mail@bypeacefulwaters.ca for more information.

Our Church Family

Calendar of Events: One of the features of our website is a calendar of meetings and events to help keep you up to date. Click on this [link](#) to have a look at everything happening at ECRC.

For those who have a prayer request or are sharing a thanksgiving, please feel free to include it on the church's Facebook page, or please contact your elder or the church office if you wish to include it in the bulletin or The Bridge App.

Exeter CRC Announcements

Council: Council would like to bring forth these people for Elder: Adrian Bakelaar, Cliff Knip, Sylvia Hulshof, Tim DeWeerd, Yvonne Van Soest and Shawn Westerik. For Deacon Teresa Buckman, Joe Dykstra, Kathryn Langendyk, and Cameron Knip. The affirmation vote will take place June 7 after the service followed by the casting of lots. Absentee ballots are available from your District elder or Al Vanderlaan Note: They must be signed.

Nursery: The nursery needs a few more adult volunteers and helpers. If you are able to help in this ministry, please contact Kassidy Heyink.

Coffee Clean-up Volunteers: To ensure we can continue to enjoy coffee and fellowship after the service each Sunday morning. There is a request that starting in June those on the list for coffee also put the coffee and sugar and creamers out. There will be a list in the kitchen of the duties needed. Thank you for all those who serve in this capacity. Any question reach out to Leo or Harry.

Craft & Connect: Bring your current project and join us for our last crafting get together before taking a break for summer. Join us on Tuesday from 1-3pm in the church library. It's a great time to work on a project, share ideas and enjoy some laughter and conversation.

Young Adults Trivia Night Join us on May 29th at 7:30 in the gym at Exeter CRC! Put your knowledge to the test and join us for a fun night of trivia, snacks, laughter, and friendly competition! Whether you're a trivia champion or just in it for the fun, everyone is welcome. Invite a friend and come hang out with other young adults for a great evening together.

Save the Date – Church in the Park Mark your calendars for July 26, for Church in the MacNaughton Park! Join us for a special time of worship, fellowship, food, and fun outdoors as we gather together. More details will be shared in the coming weeks. We hope you can join us for this wonderful time together!

March & April 2026 Collection Pay Outs

Deacons	2,565.00	Carlos & Kimberly Belez	570.00
Huron Christian School	1,084.71	Coldest Night of the Year	220.00
London Christian High	345.14	Exeter Food Bank	2,370.00
Stratford Christian School	213.65	Huron County Dist Ctr	1,321.70
Children of the Promise	210.00	Reframe	915.00
Office of Social Justice	678.15	Compassion Canada	1,312.35
Common Plate	970.90	Total	12,776.60

SOCO Beach Project Update Read reflections on where we've seen God's presence this past week. Be sure to mark June 19 on your calendar and grab your tickets for the upcoming SOCO Fundraiser featuring *The Downs*, the powerful one-woman play by Sheryl Scott, along with inspiring stories from current participants. For tickets: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/the-downs-fundraiser-2> Calling all young adults! Join us for our very first SOCO Sunday on May 31 in Port Dover for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship. We can't wait to see you there! Newsletter link: <https://mailchi.mp/southcoastbeachproject/soco-update-may-21-8575988>

Groundwork: God Redeems - The biblical theme of redemption is unique to Christian theology and sets Christianity apart from other religions. Join Groundwork as we study Genesis 12:1-5, Ephesians 1:3-11, Galatians 2:20-21, and Ephesians 2:1-5 to trace God's story of redemption from Genesis to the ultimate sacrifice of our Savior Jesus Christ and talk about living redeemed lives as we go about our daily lives. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Worship: Women of all ages are invited for an evening of worship on Sunday, May 31 at 7:30 PM at the Clinton CRC. Our hope is to create a place where hearts are encouraged and the presence of God is experienced in a meaningful way. We plan to gather on the last Sunday of every other month. Please join us through the door by the soccer fields. Worship, treats, and genuine connection—you belong here, be part of something special. For more information, please contact clintoncrc@tcc.on.ca or call 519 482 5264.

Seminary Education Financial Support: Are you feeling called to deepen your theological knowledge through seminary-level education in order to serve in ministry? Classis Huron ("Classis Ministry Leadership Team") provides financial support for seminary students called to serve in our Christian Reformed denomination. Please contact Pastor Wes Collins at pastor.wes@draytoncrc.org for more information or applications (due no later than June 1st).

Family Outreach Ontario: Special Event Family Outreach Ontario invites you to an information evening on Friday, June 5 at Bethel Christian Reformed Church (345 Elizabeth St E, Listowel, ON N4W 2P7). Our Executive Director, John Kowtecky, will present "An Overview of Addiction" and Rick H. will give his story of addiction and recovery. Please plan to attend and tell others about it as well. It will be an evening you will be sure to remember. A collection will be taken to cover our costs. 7:00 - Doors open, Refreshments/Meet & Greet; 7:30 - 9:00 - Presentation and Q&A period followed by refreshments and opportunity for talk with Mr. Kowtecky or other Family Outreach members

Small Towns. Big Mission. — You're Invited! What does it look like to share the hope of the Gospel right here in our own communities? Join us on May 27 at 5:30 PM at Vanastra CRC for an engaging and practical evening focused on small-town outreach with our CRC sister churches. Hear directly from local Huron County missionaries, April and Mark Hardwick, as they share real insights into the unique needs around us and offer simple, meaningful ways you can be part of God's work in your everyday life. Dinner provided. Please register by May 18 by emailing: holly@trinitychurchgoderich.com or filling out the [REGISTRATION FORM](#). God is at work in small towns.

Calling all Graduates: If you are graduating from high school, are pursuing post-secondary education, and have made a contribution to the pro-life movement, we would love to hear from YOU. You may be eligible to WIN the Wingham and District Right to Life Bursary of \$100.00. Please contact Brenda Sjaarda at 519-440-2744 or email sjaardabrenda@gmail.com to obtain an application for this award. If you know of someone who may be eligible, please encourage them to apply. We would love to hear all of the wonderful ways youth are making a difference in support of life. Deadline for applications is June 1, 2026.

Single in Classis Huron? Inge Rylaarsdam (Palmerston CRC), Samantha Kappers (Bethel CRC - Listowel) and Grace-Emma Bierma (Stratford CRC) are collaborating to host a curated speed dating social for Christian singles between the ages of 25-40. **When:** Friday, June 26 from 6:00pm-10:00pm [Dinner will be served at 6:30pm hosted by Holy Smokes BBQ] **Where:** Moorefield, ON **Cost:** \$25 Reserve your spot (as space is limited) by June 12, by emailing: speeddatingsocial1@gmail.com Once you've registered, you will receive a confirmation email with the details regarding payment, the specific location and an overview of the evening. Looking forward to seeing you there.

You are Invited: Join us for an original production of *The Way Back*, featuring our Creative Arts youth team – this one is GREAT for families! *The Way Back* invites the audience into a day on the Father's farm where we're quickly introduced to two sisters. One is task-driven, taking delight in doing what is asked of her, while the other dreams of a world outside her boring life on the farm. As we watch the story unfold, the sister with stars in her eyes is lured into the life of her dreams only to discover the price is higher than she realized. But when all seems lost, one encounter with Truth sets her on the way back home.

2 Showings Available:

Saturday, June 13 at 2pm

Sunday, June 14 at 2pm

Tickets are on [Eventbrite.ca](https://www.eventbrite.ca) \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.

Following the 1-hour long performance, join us for treats, games and lots of family fun

!All donations and ticket proceeds will be given to the Creative Arts program at CFT. We are looking to raise money to purchase some microphones to use in our program.

Hope Canadian Male Choir is excited to present their June 2026 concert series 'Grateful for the Breath of Life' with their director Martin Mans and with Martin Zonnenberg on the organ and piano. The choir will be joined by special guests the Urker Mans Formatie from The Netherlands.

June 25 – Vineland Free Reformed Church, 3685 King Street, Vineland

June 26 – Maranatha Christian Reformed Church, 735 Frontenac Cres, Woodstock

June 27 – St. Matthews Lutheran Church, 54 Benton Street, Kitchener

Special Urker Mans Formatie matinee concert June 27 at 1:00 pm – Knox Presbyterian Church, 51 Church Street, Elora

To purchase/reserve tickets, visit www.hopecanadianmalechoir.com; call/text 226 338 5459; or email hopecanchoir@gmail.com.

Tickets are \$25 in advance/\$30 at the door; \$10 youth 10-14; under 10 years Free. 10% discount when purchasing tickets for Elora and one other concert.

Concerts start at 7:30 pm, doors open at 7:00 pm.

Calling all men! Join Martin Mans, Hope Canadian Male Choir and the Urker Mans Formatie for an all men's sing along on Monday June 29 at Redeemer University, 777 Garner Road East, Ancaster, starting at 6:00 pm. Free will offering will be collected with proceeds going to Sycamore Centre in Ingersoll. Reserve your spot at www.hopecanadianmalechoir.com. For inquiries, please email hopecmcfundraising@gmail.com

Classis Huron Corner.

- The delegates of Classis Huron (regional assembly) met on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at the Bethel CRC, in Acton.
- Rev. Craig Hoekema, the pastor of Bethel CRC, opened with devotions.
- Rev. Sid Couperus (Classis Huron Prayer Catalyst) and Joan Brady (Classis Huron Mission Catalyst) led a sharing /prayer Round-Table session with a focus on *authentic community*.
- The chair of the meeting was Rev. Bart Eisen, pastor of Maitland River Community Church in Wingham.

Classis made various decisions...

- Josh Sweetman of Water Street CRC, Guelph, was, after an examination, approved for ordination as a Commissioned Pastor.
- Classis approved the release of Rev. Duane VanderLaan, an ordained CRC pastor, from his active ministerial service at Drayton Reformed Church, as per Article 17a of the CRC Church Order. He was declared eligible to receive a call.
- Classis discussed the frequency of classical appointments to pastoral vacant churches.

Classis received several reports...

- Rev. Melissa Burmaster and Carolyn Kleefman shared about the work at the Waterloo Campus Ministry. This ministry is not only among the students, but also includes the faculty and staff on campus.
- Delegates to synod, which will meet next month, talked about some of the items on the agenda.
- The Classis Huron Mission Team shared about its work, including a planned Moving Forward in Faith Conference next fall and an annual prayer retreat planned for next February.
- Sharon Buisman (elder of New Life, Guelph) talked about refugee sponsorship in Guelph. Mary Blydorp reported on the work of Diaconal Ministries Canada.
- Rev. Carel Geleynse (Classis Huron Safe Church Coordinator) presented the Safe Church report. He is reviewing the Classis Huron Safe Church Policy.

- River City Church in Cambridge and Waterloo CRC informed classis that they are regrettably in the process of disaffiliation from the Christian Reformed Church.
- Two Church Visitors' reports were presented.
- Maynard Wiersma, director of Christian Stewardship Services, reported on the work of CSS.
- Classis also received denominational updates. Peter Meerveld talked about the structure of our denomination, while Roshani Morton used a potluck to explain the funding of the various denominational ministries.

Classis made appointments...

- Classis appointed Grace Emma Bierma to the position of Youth Ministry Consultant of Classis Huron. She will be working with the youth ministry leaders in the local churches.
- Classis re-elected Rev. Martin Dam (Stratford CRC) as Regional Pastor for a second term.
- Rev. Jay Crossen was nominated to serve as the alternate synodical deputy.
- Rev. Ed Den Haan was re-elected, while Rev. Harry Zantingh and Rev. Jay Crossen were elected to serve as church visitors for three-year terms.
- Classis held its Annual General Meeting in accordance with the Canadian Corporation Act.
- Pastor Bart was thanked for his excellent leadership during the day.
- Classis adjourned at 4:26 PM.
- The complete set of minutes will be available at www.classishuron.ca.

This Week May 24-30 2026

<u>Sunday</u> 10am Worship Sunday School age 3 – Grade 6	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u> Common Plate Meal 5:30 – 7:00 pm Precious Blood Catholic Church Craft & Connect 1-3 Library	<u>Wednesday</u> Executive Meeting 7:30 pm	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u> Young Adults 7-10	<u>Saturday</u> Private Family Event 10:00 am
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	May 24	May 31	June 7	June 14
Elder	Jake Zantingh	Joe Lubbers	Joe Lubbers	Al Vanderlaan
Deacon	Anthony, Joy	Joy, Anthony	Marian, Dianne	Dianne, Marian
Coffee Clean-Up	Job & Laura Al and Sylvia	Curtis & Cassidy Scott & Lisa	Greg & Kaitlyn, Derek & Sylvia ** Please note announcement	Rick & Sylvia H, Rick & Linda J ** Please note announcement
Greeters	Gerben & Ria Steenbeek	Wibbina, Clarence	Yvonne, Kathryn	Scott & Wendy Stafford
Ushers	Tim, Gerard	Betty, Marian	Cliff, Anthony	Colton, George
Children's Message	N/A	Verhoog Family member	Pastor Jay	Teresa
Nursery	Kathryn Langendyk, Marique Crossen, Avery Knip	Katelyn Heyink, Hannah Glavin, Sadie Bouman	Tanya Steenbeek, Joanne Boersma, Layla Denhollander	Norma Vanderlaan, Kevin Mulder, Alanna Nyman
Sunday School	Sylvia Hulshof Sandra Ducharme, Jolene De Boer, Jody Mulder	Teresa Buckman, Sandra Ducharme, Janelle Bouman. Jordan Boersma, Jody Mulder	Joy DeWeerd, Cassidy Heyink, Laura Garritson, Sharon Kodde, Sarah Mulder	Joy DeWeerd, Cassidy Heyink, Laura Garritson, Sharon Kodde, Sarah Mulder
Valet	Ron deRuiter	Greg Langendyk	Tim DeWeerd	Mike Zandwyk
Tech Booth	(P) Greg (A) Job (V) Aaron	(P) Landon (A) Trevor (V) Tony	(P) Dan (A) Nathan (V) Dan	(P) Sam (A) (V) Gerard
Hall Monitor	Gerald Kodde	Marian DeBoer	Anthony Nyman	George Poortinga